

Message Text

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ORIGIN TRSE-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-06 ISO-00 SP-02 AID-05 EB-04 NSC-05 RSC-01

CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-01 OMB-01 CEA-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00

COME-00 /043 R

DRAFTED BY TREASURY:RWILLIAMS

APPROVED BY NEA:SSOBER

TREASURY:RMCCORMACK

TREASURY:HWORTHINGTON

TREASURY:GPASKY

NEA/ARP:RWAHERNE

EB/CBA:JNESVIG

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O 150200Z NOV 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 252047

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: EAID, BEXP, SA, US

SUBJECT: TREASURY COMMENTS ON JOINT COMMISSION ISSUES

REF: JIDDA 6249

1. TREASURY HAS ASKED THAT WE PASS ALONG ITS COMMENTS
ON JIDDA 6249, AS FOLLOWS:

TREASURY FEELS THAT JIDDA 6249 POINTS UP THE NEED FOR
ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL IN SAUDI ARABIA. DEFINING THE PRECISE
SCOPE OF WORK FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANTS--AS REQUESTED BY
THE SAUDIS--CAN NOT BE DONE IN WASHINGTON, D.C. BUT RATHER
CAN ONLY EVOLVE AFTER DETAILED DISCUSSIONS WITH THE
INDIVIDUAL SAUDIS WHO PROPOSE TO DEPLOY THE EXPERT IN
QUESTION. THE GENERAL REQUESTS MADE OF THE USG IN THE
VARIOUS WORKING GROUP MEETINGS PATENTLY REQUIRE MORE ON
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THE SPOT FOLLOW UP TO ENSURE MEANINGFUL DEPLOYMENT OF

CONSULTANTS. WE SYMPATHIZE WITH THE OVER WORKED PERSONNEL IN THE JIDDA EMBASSY, AND THEREFORE REQUEST THAT AMBASSADOR IMPRESS UPON THE SAUDIS THE ABSOLUTE NECESSITY FOR ADDITIONAL SUBSTANTIVE JOINT COMMISSION PERSONNEL IN ORDER TO FOLLOW UP SAUDI REQUESTS, AS WELL AS TO ATTEND TO ROUTINE ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS.

2. TREASURY FEELS NAZIR'S COMMENTS ON THE WORKING GROUPS SHOULD BE INTERPRETED IN LIGHT OF HIS OPPOSITION FROM THE VERY BEGINNING TO THE WORKING GROUP CONCEPT. HISHAM NAZIR'S REPORTED STATEMENT THAT HE THOUGHT FROM THE BEGINNING OUR PLAN TO BRING AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN IN UNDER U.S. GOVERNMENT UMBRELLA WAS UNWORKABLE AND HE WAS NOT SURPRISED THAT U.S. BUSINESS REJECTED IT IS PARTICULARLY DISTURBING TO TREASURY. IT INDICATES THAT HE DOES NOT UNDERSTAND THE CONCEPT AND IS MISINFORMED. IT IS NOT THE INTENT OF THE DEVELOPMENT ENTERPRISE THAT U.S. BUSINESS OPERATE UNDER USG UMBRELLA. THIS IS CAREFULLY DELINEATED IN THE FORMAL PROPOSAL ADDRESSED TO ABA AL-KHAYL. U.S. BUSINESSMEN'S INITIAL REACTION WAS THAT THEY TOO DID NOT ENTHUSE OVER WORKING UNDER A USG UMBRELLA. THIS IS MORE THEIR MISUNDERSTANDING THAN SUBSTANTIVE OBJECTION. SUBSEQUENTLY MANY HAVE INDICATED THEIR SUPPORT. THE BETTER INFORMED ONES FURTHER BELIEVE THAT SOME IMPLEMENTING MECHANISM IS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY TO ACHIEVE ANYTHING NEAR THE SAG'S DEVELOPMENT GOALS. IT IS MOST IMPORTANT TO THE JOINT ECONOMIC COMMISSION THAT NAZIR FULLY AND ACCURATELY UNDERSTAND THE DEVELOPMENT ENTERPRISE CONCEPT AND PARTICULARLY THAT THE INITIAL COOLNESS OF SOME U.S. BUSINESSMEN WAS TO THE IDEA OF A U.S.G. ORGANIZATION TO COORDINATE DEVELOPMENT CONTRACTS -- NOT TO THE SAUDI DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION CONCEPT REPRESENTED BY THE DEVELOPMENT ENTERPRISE PROPOSAL.

3. APPRECIATE EMBASSY COMMENTS. INGERSOLL

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